

## NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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war for the rebel States had left London. The privateer Nashville, Captain Pegram, had arrived at Southampton on the 21st inst. On the 19th she captured the American ship Harvey Birch, bound from Havre to New York and, having taken the crew prisoners, burned her to the water's edge. After landing the captain and crew at Southampton, the Nashville remained there with the rebel flag flying at her peak.

Mr. Russell, in his last letter to the London Times, says that Mr. Lincoln and his Cabinet were not indisposed towards an arbitration of the difficulty with the rebellious South, and that the question of accepting the aid of some of the potentates of Europe was actually under discussion at Washington. It would require some more reliable authority than Mr. Russell, however, to verify this statement.

It was reported that several vessels were being insured in London to run to New Orleans and back.

**THE NEWS.**  
By the arrival of the City of Baltimore off Cape Race last evening we have advices from Liverpool to the 20th and Queenstown to the 21st inst., four days later than the accounts previously received. The news is highly important, as will be seen on reference to our telegraphic summary, given in the third page of to-day's paper.

The mails of the Canada arrived from Boston yesterday evening. Our European files are dated to the 16th instant, and contain some very interesting details of the news—telegraphed from Halifax—published in the Herald on Thursday morning. Our correspondents in Paris and St. Petersburg furnish very important reports of the condition of the continent of Europe—executive and financial—at the latest moment. The revolutionary feeling was progressing very seriously in Russia.

The steamboat Francis Skiddy came in collision with a schooner on the North river on Thursday night. The steamboat was considerably damaged in her machinery, and three persons were killed and six seriously injured by escaping steam.

A despatch from Louisville, published in yesterday's Herald, announced that a secession ordinance had been passed by the Legislature of Kentucky. This is decidedly an error. Both branches of the Legislature of Kentucky are strongly for the Union, and that body was not in session at the time that ordinance was passed. The declaration of independence and the ordinance of secession referred to were adopted by a few soldiers of the rebel army, who were called together at Russellville, Ky., by John C. Breckinridge, Humphrey Marshall and H. C. Burnett, a cabal with no more constitutional power than the same number of Washington Market huckster women would have to perform a similar work.

Colonel Croghan, who was killed in the rebel army during Floyd's retreat from Kanawha, was a son of General Croghan, who defended Fort Stephenson, and was once the owner of the Mammoth Cave, in Kentucky. It is said that before he died he regretted having joined the rebels.

A company of Union cavalry visited the farm of the rebel General Breckinridge, which is situated on Green river, near Middlesboro, Ky., on the 24th inst., and confiscated all his stock, wheat, corn, &c. The Union soldiers of Cheat Mountain, Virginia, have built a little mountain city for their winter quarters. It is composed of log huts, properly roofed and chinks well filled with mud.

The State of Maine has 9,739 men in the field, 2,050 infantry in incomplete regiments, and one regiment of cavalry numbering 2,110.

General Nelson's brigade, consisting of the Second, Nineteenth, Twenty-first, Thirty-third and on the 25th inst. from Pickett, Ky.

Captain Gordon, convicted of serving on board the slave ship Erie, will be brought into the United States Circuit Court this day (Saturday), at eleven o'clock, when a decision will be rendered on the motion for a new trial. Should the decision be final, the United States District Attorney will move the Court for judgment.

As will be seen by report elsewhere, the Board of County Canvassers yesterday finished their work of canvassing the returns of the late State and county election. The official declaration of the result was ordered to be published exclusively in the Herald.

The cotton market was again excited and higher yesterday. The sales embraced from 1,500 to 1,800 bales, chiefly to spinners, closing on the basis of 37c for middling uplands, which was an advance of about 1c. per lb. The flour market opened with steadiness, but closed heavy and rather easier for common and medium grades, while extra brands were without change of moment. Wheat was steady at the opening, but closed easier, while sales were some less active. Corn was less buoyant and active, while it closed with the turn of the market in favor of purchasers. Western mixed, for shipment, sold at 52c. 63c. Pork was unchanged and less active, while sales of meat were made at 12c 50c to 13c, and prime at 13c 50c to 14c. Sugars remained firm, and the advance of 1c. a c. per lb. on the week's sales was sustained. The sales embraced about 600 hhds., at prices given in another column. Coffee was firm, with sales of Ceylon and Laguayra at 10c., and 500 bags Rio at p. t. Freight was without change of moment, though rather easier for English ports, while engagements were moderate.

**The Meeting of Congress.**  
The first regular session of the Congress which meets in Washington on Monday next will be one of the most important, and, we trust, one of the most orderly, practical and satisfactory to the country since the organization of our government.

Relieved of the disorganizing secession element of our rebellious Southern States, the two houses will be free to give their undivided attention to the immediate exigencies and necessities of the government and the country in reference to our domestic and foreign relations. In this connection we are gratified to learn from Washington that this policy of legislation will be adopted, and that the two houses will set aside, for a "more convenient season," all extraneous matters calculated to interfere with the accomplishment of that grand object and ultimatum of President Lincoln, "the integrity of the Union." All parties, therefore, interested in the prosecution of those peculiar claims, jobs and contracts connected with the lobby of our late peace establishment will do well to take their soundings before investing very largely in the lobby operations of this war Congress.

We expect from President Lincoln a calm, clear and practical schedule of recommendations touching our domestic and foreign affairs, and strictly in accordance with that general line of policy declared in his inaugural and in his message to Congress at the extraordinary session of July last. We expect him to adhere to that conservative line of action on the slavery question indicated in his instructions to General Fremont in reference to the emancipation of the slaves of rebel masters. In a word, we expect from Mr. Lincoln a firm adhesion to that wise and eminently popular platform, the "integrity of the Union," including the landmarks of the constitution on the subject of slavery. Upon this strong and impregnable platform we also anticipate the cordial co-operation of his Cabinet. One of the most lamentable manifestations of the imbecility of Mr. Buchanan's administration was the conflict of

official views, arguments and recommendations which he permitted between himself and some of the leading members of his Cabinet on the most important public issues of the day. Thus far we have had no such manifestations of weakness and indecision from President Lincoln, nor have we any misgivings that he will allow any division of sentiment between his own official expositions and those of the subordinate members of his administration.

President Lincoln, having won the general sympathy, co-operation and confidence of our conservative people of all parties, all classes and all sections, will surely understand the ways and means by which to hold his ground and to improve his advantages. He will stand fast to those conservative and practical ideas, and to that practical unity and industrious co-operation of his Cabinet, which have already achieved so much in developing the power of the government and the warlike resources of the loyal States as to assure every intelligent mind of the speedy suppression of this Southern rebellion. Let Congress, therefore, steer faithfully by the charts of the administration, and we shall have an eminently practical, successful and satisfactory system of legislative measures in behalf of the great cause of the government and our loyal States.

To this end the administration possesses an extraordinary advantage in reference to our political parties and platforms. Where are they? Where are the parties and party principles and measures, even of our last Presidential election? They have been swept away as by a consuming fire. The miserable clap-net of the Baltimore democratic factions, and the peculiar resolutions of the Chicago Convention, are as dead and obsolete as Anti-Masonry and the dark lantern mummeries of Know Nothingism. This Southern rebellion marks a new era in our political history; for our only political landmarks remaining are those of our federal constitution. The demoralizing issues upon which the democratic party was destroyed, and the dogmas of the slavery agitation upon which the republican party was founded, have all gone down before this overwhelming issue of a war of life or death to the government. Upon this grand issue the mousing politician has become intolerable, and mere party principles have become a public nuisance.

President Lincoln, rising to the grandeur and momentous exigencies of the crisis, recognizes no party but that whose platform is "the integrity of the Union." He has thus liberated his administration from the manacles of scheming politicians. He fully realizes the fact that our vagabond politicians, North and South, with their reckless schemes, and plots, and measures of discord and dissolution, of the last thirty years, have brought this terrible war upon the country. He knows that the salvation of the country depends upon a different class of men—upon those honest, practical, working patriots to whose industry, under the reign of peace, the country had attained a degree of prosperity and happiness unparalleled in the history of nations.

Of this class McClellan, called from his peaceful vocation as a railway engineer to the head of our armies, is a notable example. And just such honest, practical men, from the walks of peace, are the men now demanded in every department of the public service to aid in the vigorous prosecution of this war. Measures, let us hope, will control this approaching session of Congress. And yet it is to be feared that there is a sufficient remnant of radical abolitionism remaining in both houses to encourage the politicians of that disorganizing faction to attempt the experiment of embarrassing the government, or of pushing it into a crusade for the extermination of Southern slavery. This faction, however, may be readily controlled by a firm front on the part of the President. We are confident, too, that he will amply satisfy the expectations of our conservative people, and we accordingly anticipate the active co-operation of Congress in the prosecution of this war, not for the extermination of slavery by fire and sword, but for "the integrity of the Union."

**The Condition of Mexico and the Triple Alliance of European Powers.**  
In the midst of our domestic troubles our foreign policy remains unchanged. It is manifest that no internal difficulty can or should alter the fixed principles which the government has laid down for itself in its intercourse with foreign nations; and hence the demonstration now being made against Mexico by the alliance of France, England and Spain—a demonstration which has assumed all the features of a forcible interference with the affairs of the American continent—cannot be viewed without intense interest, nor tolerated without an earnest, and, if need be, a hostile remonstrance.

We lay before our readers to-day a very full history of all the complications in recent Mexican history which have led to the European alliance, together with a description of the fleets and armies which are now on their way to rendezvous at Havana, and a succinct account of the complaints against the Mexican government upon which are based the reasons of the three European nations for entering into a treaty to overshadow Mexico with a foreign protectorate. Our description is accompanied by a fine map of the Gulf portion of the Mexican republic.

The Mexican question is a grave one, and as such it must be treated. The combined fleet of three foreign Powers will soon be floating in the waters of the Gulf. The treaty under which this foreign tripartite alliance has been created is in itself offensive and insulting to the Mexican government, not only inviting us, as it does, to ignore the most cherished principles of our policy with regard to the American continent, and ally ourselves with those nations in the act of violating them, but providing for carrying out the scheme in any event, whether our government consents to it or not.

The ostensible object of the naval expedition to Mexico is to restore that country to peace, to protect foreign commerce, and to enforce the payment of certain debts due to foreign creditors. But, in carrying out these purposes, each of the three nations has its own peculiar end to serve, which underlies the surface presented to the public view.

Spain, while securing the payment of her debt, looks forward to the reconquest of her old colonies in America. The difficulty of the United States, said Marshal O'Donnell, is the opportunity for Spain, as O'Donnell used to boast that England's difficulty was Ireland's opportunity. The speech of Queen Isabella to the Cortes the other day points, with a precision not to be mistaken, to the reconstruction of Spanish dominion in all the countries over which the standard of her Catholic Majesty's

dynasty once waved. St. Domingo, she claims exultingly, has already returned to its fold; Mexico is to follow; next come the Guano Islands, and so on, until Old Spain, with her kings or viceroys, occupies all the South and Central American republics.

France has, no doubt, entered the alliance partly to recover the debt due to her citizens but mainly to worry England by her interference in a measure the largest profit of which the latter country hoped to realize for herself. France, too, has another object. It is said that a secret treaty has been made between Napoleon and the Spanish government whereby Spain cedes the Balearic Islands, in the Mediterranean, to France, in return for her assistance in this Mexican business.

England goes into the alliance nominally to protect British bondholders, and to carry out the views of Mr. Mathew, the late English Minister in Mexico, who represented that British interests in that country were going to ruin; that, notwithstanding the almost total absorption of the wealth of Mexico in bullion and products by England, through the agency of her West Indian mail steamers, she would never reap a bountiful harvest until Mexico enjoyed the blessings of a European protectorate.

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